

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 09298 031748Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00

EB-07 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 EPG-02

SIL-01 OMB-01 /119 W

-----040442Z 057404 /10

R 031713Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4718

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY NASSAU

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMEMBASSY BANJUL

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY

AMEMBASSY VICTORIA

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

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PAGE 02 LONDON 09298 031748Z

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 09298

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E. O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ECON, XX

SUBJECT: RAMPHAL ON THE COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE

1. EMBASSY OFFICER SAW COMMONWEALTH SECRETARY GENERAL RAMPHAL AND HIS POLITICAL ADVISER MONI MALHOUTRA ON JUNE 3 FOR A DESCRIPTION OF HOW THEY EXPECT NEXT WEEK'S COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE TO UNFOLD. RAMPHAL SAID THE CONFERENCE IS PRACTICALLY WITHOUT STRUCTURE AND ALWAYS INFORMAL, BUT HE SUGGESTED THE TALKS WOULD BE DOMINATED BY TWO MAIN ISSUES: SOUTHERN AFRICA AND THE NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE.

2. RAMPHAL SAID THE DISCUSSION OF SOUTHERN AFRICAN PROBLEMS, WHICH WILL BE INTRODUCED BY KENNETH KAUNDA, IS BOUND TO BE EMOTIONAL IN LIGHT OF SMITH'S RECENT INCURSION INTO MOZAMBIQUE. HE COMPLIMENTED THE US AND UK ON THEIR HANDLING OF THE RECENT CRISIS. BUT, RAMPHAL SAID, THE TONE OF RELATIVE MODERATION THAT CHARACTERIZED THE MAPUTO CONFERENCE WILL LIKELY GIVE WAY TO MORE MILITANT DEMANDS BY THE AFRICAN LEADERS. THE COMMONWEALTH SANCTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT ON OIL WILL ADD FUEL TO THE FIRE.

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PAGE 03 LONDON 09298 031748Z

3. A RELATED ISSUE MORE SPECIFICALLY TIED TO THE COMMONWEALTH ORGANIZATION, RAMPHAL WENT ON, IS THE QUESTION OF SPORTS EXCHANGES WITH SOUTH AFRICA. NEW ZEALAND PRIME MINISTER MULDOON IS UNLIKELY TO RECENT ON HIS COUNTRY'S POLICY, AND CANADIAN PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU IS THEREFORE LIKELY TO FRET AT THE PROSPECT THAT THE COMMONWEALTH GAMES IN EDMONDTON WILL COLLAPSE. EVEN THOUGH THE ISSUE MIGHT APPEAR PERIPHERAL, MALHOUTRA ADDED, IT WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THE CHARGED ATMOSPHERE.

4. RAMPHAL EXPLAINED THAT NOT ENOUGH DUST HAS SETTLED ON THE PARIS CIEC MEETINGS TO PREDICT HOW THE NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE WILL FARE DURING THE CONFERENCE. HE WAS NOT SANGUINE, HOWEVER, AND SPECULATED THAT THE NIGERIANS "COULD BE DIFFICULT."

5. RAMPHAL SAID HE REGRETTED NYERERE WOULD NOT BE IN ATTENDANCE. HE SAID KAUNDA HAD TOLD HIM THAT NYERERE HAD "SERIOUS DOMESTIC PROBLEMS."

BREWSTER

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 03-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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